GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:232
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2017
Immunisation Guidelines
Meena Shri Harish Chandra

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of paediatricians recommending vaccine merely to favour vaccine companies and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(b) the details of complaints received in this regard;

(c) whether the Government is aware of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP) tweaking immunisation guidelines to include products of such vaccine companies, funding them; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government there to?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 232* FOR 17TH MARCH, 2017

(a) The Government is aware that the paediatricians recommend vaccines which are different from the Immunization Schedule of Universal Immunization Programme. The Government follows vaccination schedule which is of public health importance based on the recommendations of National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI).
(b) The Government has earlier received a complaint (Registration no. PMOPG/E/2017/0050267) from a resident of Karnataka regarding newspaper report on the nexus between pharmaceutical company and Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) and the issue of affordability of such vaccines was raised. In response to the complaint, the complainant was informed that the Government does not endorse the recommendations of Indian Academy of Pediatrics and all the vaccines included in the Universal Immunization Programme are available free of cost across the Government Health Facilities.
(c) The Government is aware of the difference in Immunization guidelines of the Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP) and Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). Indian Academy of Paediatrics is an independent body which provides guidelines for vaccination on individual basis and are different from that of Universal Immunization Programme. The guidelines for Universal Immunization Programme are for benefit of community at large and in line with the global mandates like Polio eradication, Measles elimination etc.
(d) The Government of India does not endorse the recommendations of Indian Academy of Paediatrics (IAP) and follows its own immunization guidelines which are based on public health importance as per National Vaccine Policy and are formulated on the basis of extensive review of scientific evidences by the National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI).